



May 24, 2005

Dr. George Blevins, Coordinator
Minority Initiative Sub-recipient Grant Office
University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff
1200 N. University Dr.
Mail Slot 4902
Pine Bluff, AR 71601

Re: Advisory Opinion #483-05-05

Dear Dr. Blevins:

This letter is in response to your request for an advisory opinion in accordance with §19-11-715(b) of the Arkansas Code Annotated of 1987. Your request for an advisory opinion is based on the following facts:

- a) Rosalind Jones has been receiving payment from UAPB for grant writing on a contractual basis, not as a state employee
- b) Ms. Jones has a sister, Mrs. Cheryl Dilworth who is a full time employee at the Dept. of Health.
- c) You are requesting an advisory opinion to determine whether an ethical conflict exists to continue to contract with Ms. Jones.

Since there is no connection or relationship between the work performed by Ms. Jones and the agency for which Ms. Dilworth works, we can see no conflict in a continuation of the contractual arrangement with Ms. Jones. However, in the event that the amount to Ms. Jones exceeds \$25,000, she will be required to disclose her relationship with a state employee (Ms. Dilworth) on the Governors Executive Order 98-04 disclosure form.

This advisory opinion is issued in accordance with Arkansas Code Annotated §19-11-715(b) and compliance with the above course of conduct is deemed to constitute compliance with the ethical standards of the Act and EO 98-04.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Weiss
Director

cc: Joe Giddis
Kay Turner, APO, UAPB